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The New SLC Redevelopment Program “Tops Off” North Concourse

Salt Lake City, UT– The New SLC Redevelopment Program celebrated another major milestone on March 19, 2019, when one of the last steel beams was placed on top of the North Concourse building.

In the construction business, a “topping out” or “topping off” is a builder’s rite that is traditionally held when the last beam—or its equivalent—is placed on top of a structure during construction. The practice of “topping out” a new building can be traced to the Scandinavian religious rite of placing a tree atop a new building to appease the tree-dwelling spirits displaced during construction.

[The North Concourse](#) was not part of the original Terminal Redevelopment Program, but was announced May 2016. Initially, the airport planned to continue using concourses F, C and D, and planned to build the North Concourse at a future date. Tremendous passenger growth and significant facility deficiencies, which would require costly renovations, moved up the timeline.

The North Concourse broke ground in January 2018, and since that time workers have installed thousands of stone columns, poured approximately 16,190 cubic yards of concrete and erected more than 5,000 tons of structural steel.

The first phase of the North Concourse will include 20 gates in a 465,775 sq. ft. building. The second phase will include 10 gates in a 364,479 sq. ft. building with the ability to build an additional 15 gates to the east for a total of 45 gates. The flexible gate layout will serve a mix of aircraft sizes, although the North Concourse will primarily be used for narrow-body and small, wide-body aircraft.

The \$850 million North Concourse contract was awarded to Austin Okland, which is a joint venture between Texas-based Austin Commercial and Salt Lake-based Okland Construction.

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